



## Statement on Travel History when Conducting Initial Patient Assessment

Emergency medical services (EMS) personnel, and their partners in public safety and public health, face extraordinary challenges in the practice of their chosen professions. It is the responsibility of stakeholders at all levels to support efforts to strengthen the information gained by health care providers when conducting the initial patient assessment and contact.

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**Department of Defense**

Office of the Assistant  
Secretary of Defense for  
Health Affairs

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**Department of  
Homeland Security**

Office of the Assistant  
Secretary for Health  
Affairs/Chief Medical Officer

U.S. Fire Administration

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**Department of Health &  
Human Services**

Office of the Assistant  
Secretary for  
Preparedness and Response

Indian Health Service

Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention

Health Resources and  
Services Administration

Centers for Medicare &  
Medicaid Services

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**Department of  
Transportation**

National Highway Traffic  
Safety Administration

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**Federal Communications  
Commission**

Public Safety and  
Homeland Security Bureau

With the growing need to gain the travel history from patients to combat emerging diseases and to protect our workforce, FICEMS recommends that when conducting the initial assessment of all prehospital patients that travel history be asked and documented.

FICEMS supports a culture of safety in emergency services that prioritizes the need to protect the health of responders and recognizes the unique challenges that these professionals endure. Leaders should promote the recognition of the benefit for informed personnel to support the treatment they provide and for their own wellness.